



THE RICE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
408 Division Street, Northfield, MN 55057

2011 Fall Issue

The Rice County Genealogical Society meets at 2:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday on even months at the Rice County Historical Society Museum, 1814 NW 2nd Avenue, Faribault, and on odd months in the Marston Headley Research Room in the lower level of the Northfield Historical Society Building, 408 Division Street, Northfield. Meetings are suspended during June, July and August. Special meetings may be called for research trips or for working on projects.

MEETING DATES:

Sept. 20, 2011

Oct. 18, 2011

Nov. 15, 2011

Dec. 20, 2011

Jan. 17, 2012

Feb. 21, 2012

Mar. 20, 2012

Apr. 17, 2012

May 15, 2012

Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting. Newsletter items due

Faribault: 2:00 regular meeting. Approve the Fall

2010 Newsletter and set date for printing and mailing.

Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting.

Election of officers for 2012. Dues for 2012 due.

Faribault: 11:30 Annual Christmas get-together at The

Depot. 2:00 short meeting at the Rice Co. Historical Society Museum. Final date for 2011 dues to be paid.

Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting.

Faribault: 2:00 regular meeting. Newsletter items due

Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting. Approve the Spring

2011 Newsletter and set date for printing and mailing.

Faribault: 2:00 regular meeting.

Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting

OFFICERS:

President.....Audrey DeMann

Vice President.....Arlene Williams

Secretary-Treasurer.....Dorothy Herkenratt

Newsletter Editor/Publisher Dorothy Herkenratt

Dues are for the calendar year and are \$10 for an individual and \$12 for a family.

The newsletter is included with membership

Members currently are actively working on their family lines and in searching out the history of those who came to live in or who passed through Rice County. When we have queries from others not in our family lines who seek help on their research projects, we refer them to one of our current members who is willing to do research for a fee. To secure more information on services she offers and her fee schedule, please contact her directly: Norma Gilbertson, 808 E. 5th St., Northfield, MN 55057 Ph.: 507-664-9591 e.mail: njgilber@rconnect.com

Please call ahead to schedule research in the Marston Headley Research Room.

An Abbreviated History of the First Four Generations of the Herkenratt-Niebels Family in
America: the Great-Grandparents of Richard Milton Herkenratt
(as compiled by Dorothy Chester Herkenratt)

Jacob Herkenrath/Herkenratt

Date of Birth: 25 February 1821
Place of Birth: Evinghoven, Germany
Marriage: Before 1854
Place of Marriage: Germany
Death: 6/7 January 1873
Place of Death: during blizzard in Ottertail County, Minnesota

Maria Catarina Niebels

Date of Birth: 12 June 1832
Place of Birth: St. Hubert, Kempen, Ger
Death: 30 January 1863
Place of Death: at home of daughter, Mrs. Andrew Cook, Faribault, Rice Co., Minnesota

This family's history as passed down is sketchy at best, but we do know that the first of this family to arrive in America was Jacob with his wife Maria Niebels and their son Handrag. Tradition says one son died during the Atlantic crossing, but so far this has not been documented. When the family arrived, the name was spelled Herkenrath and was only changed to the current spelling of Herkenratt during the lifetime of Joseph P. Herkenratt. It is also supposed that the family came to America after Apr of 1857 (the date Handrag was born in Germany) and before 1 May of 1858 (the date Joseph was born in Rice County in MN). The Herkenrath family is believed to have come from the Catholic settlement named Herkenrath in Germany (there were two Herkenrath settlements about three miles apart, one Catholic and one Evangelical or Protestant). Family records are therefore to be found in Neunkirchen (Siegkries) church records and civil record information in Köln (Cologne). Herkenrath was equidistant from Neunkirchen and Köln and each easily walked to in a day's time.

Maria Niebels was Jacob Herkenrath's first wife. They had 4 children (possibly 5, if one account was correct that one child died on the voyage from Germany to America): Handrag (a son), Joseph, Elizabeth, and Catherine. The family definitely was Catholic. Jacob's 2nd wife was Catherine Doffing (whose 1st husband was Jacob Brawand by whom she had 2 children: Rudolph and John Brawand) and she bore Jacob 2 children: William and Mary (Maria) Herkenrath. William and Mary Herkenrath were adopted, William by a Miller family of Montana and Mary (Maria) possibly either by the same Millers or possibly a Spies family in Elizabeth, MN. I believe that they were also Catholic. The 3rd wife was Maria Schonfer (or Sconfer) and they had 3 children: Maria, John and Eda.

This part of the story is based on information that has been passed down to Richard's and my generation from his family and from my father, Edward Ogden Chester, who was a good friend of the Herkenratt family. However, research that has now been done shows that what has been passed down may not be exactly correct.

Working with those researching the Niebels family, we can confirm that Jacob Herkenrath was married to Peter Michael and Sybilla Catarina (Venten) Niebels' eldest daughter Maria Catarina, and they came to America with the Niebels family sometime in 1854. We have a copy of the paper necessary for the Niebels family to emigrate issued 22 Apr 1854 to Peter Michael Niebels by the burgermeister (mayor) stating that Peter was a good family man. It also states that Peter was a Potter and a Roof Tile Maker. At that time, the family lived in the village of St. Hubert (near Krefeld), in the county of Kempen and in the administrative seat of Dusseldorf. We still do not have the exact date and port of embarkation, the name of the ship on which they sailed, nor the date and port of arrival. On the reverse of that document is a listing of Peter and Sybilla Niebels' children with their dates of birth.

While we don't have any documented information on Jacob Herkenrath's family, it is possible that he lived in or near Köln (Cologne) as that is where most of the Herkenrath families are found. Some records indicate that Jacob was born 21 Feb 1821 in Evinghoven, Germany with his father's name given as Peter Joseph Herkenrath and his mother's as Anna Catherine Dunkel. If so, this might account for the fact that Jacob named one son Joseph Peter.

Jacob's wife was Maria Catarina Niebels, the daughter of Peter Michael Niebels who was born 5 Dec 1806 in St Hubert, Kempen, Germany to Gerard and Marie Catherine (Monschau) Niebels, and Sybilla Catarina Venten who was born 9 Oct 1809 in Krefeld, Rhineland, Prussia to Pierre Corneille and Marie Adelaide (Mangen) Venten.

Maria Catarina (Niebels) Herkenrath had five siblings who came with the Niebels/Herkenrath group to America:

1. Johann Gerhard Niebels born 22 Mar 1835 in Krefeld, Rhineland, Prussia who married first on 9 Sep 1865 in Faribault, Rice Co., MN, Christina Weaver born 22 Feb 1837. Their children were Emma Catherine who married Levi W. Lane; Louisa B. who married Ezra Moral Lane; Amelia; Caroline Christina "Lena" who married Henry Kritzer; Catherine A. who lived only about a year; and two infants who died at birth. He married as his second wife Katurah Black from Ohio.

2. Johann Jacob Niebels born 17 Sep 1840 in Krefeld who married 28 Mar 1862 at Ft. Snelling, Augusta Holmberg born 16 Sep 1842 near Oslo, Norway. Their children were Albert J. who married Mable L. Carpenter; Clara Louise who married Louis Kean; Muriel Campion; and Dr. Harold E. who married Florence Carlson.

3. Johann Wilhelm Niebels born 24 Oct 1842 in Krefeld who married Gresenzia Niebels of Baden, Baden, Germany.

4. Elizabeth Machdalena Niebels born 18 Jan 1848 in Krefeld who married 24 Jul 1864 at St. Patrick's Church in Shieldsville, Rice Co., MN, Henry William Mullenmeister born 20 Dec 1837 in Rhineland, Prussia. Their children were Anna Katherine who married Frank Xavier Voegelé; Elizabeth Caroline "Carrie" who married George Misgen; Henry who married Emma ____; Floretta; Oscar; William F.; Laura Mary; Winifred Mary; Ella; Gertrude; and Arthur F. Mullenmeister who married Minnie Gundman.

5. Maria Gertrudt Niebels was born 26 Mar 1853 in Krefeld and changed her name after coming to America to Anna Katherine. She married 30 Oct 1870 in Faribault, Rice Co., MN, Andrew Cook who came from Ireland. Their children were William Henry who never married; Catherine who became Sr. Lambertine, O.P. in the Dominican Order; Andrew Cook, Jr. who married Grace Lauterbach; Dr. Michael F. (D.D.S.) who married Evelyn M. ____; John E. who married Agnes C. Rockwell; Edmund J. who married Maude Moran; Mary Agnes "Mayme" who never married; and Dr. George W. Cook (D.D.S.) who married Lillian Murnane.

Maria Katarina's other brother, Johann Jarrick, was drowned in the river and was buried in Köln before the family left Germany.

Because Jacob and Maria came to America in 1854, we know for certain that Handrag (Heinrich/Henry) had to be born in America and that is confirmed in the census records. Now we have a more accurate version of family history.

Maria Katarina Niebels was Jacob Herkenrath's first wife. They had four known children: Handrag (a son), Joseph, Elizabeth, and Catherine. The family definitely was Catholic.

Jacob's 2nd wife was Catherine Doffing (whose 1st husband was Jacob Braband (or Brawand) by whom she had two children: Rudolph and John Braband (or Brawand) and she bore Jacob two children: William and Mary (Maria) Herkenrath. William and Mary Herkenrath were adopted, William by a Miller family of Montana and Mary (Maria) possibly either by the same Millers or possibly a Spies family in Elizabeth, MN. I believe that they were also Catholic. The following is information on Catherine Doffing's (Jacob Herkenrath's 2nd wife's)

family: The Doffing family (three brothers, Conrad, Peter and Nicholas and their sister Catherine) were among the early pioneers in Dakota Co. They came to the US from the New Trier area in Germany in the 1840's and settled first near Fond du Lac in WI. Around 1853-1856 they moved to the area near New Trier and Hampton in Dakota Co. in the MN Territory where the brothers homesteaded, breaking sod with oxen and then engaging in farming. Historical records indicate that the four lived very close together in WI and also when they came to MN.

The 3rd wife of Jacob was Maria Schonfer (or Sconfer) and they had three children: Maria, John and Eda. Supposedly some of this family moved to the Red Wing area. Other than census records, I have no information as yet on the Schonfer family.

What have we found out about Jacob Herkenrath? Page 61 of the 1860 Census records for Steele Co., MN taken on the 24th day of Jul on Rd. 20, Owatonna, has the Niebels family and the Herkenrath family living next to each other and that Jacob's father-in-law was already deceased as only his mother-in-law Katerina Niebels age 52, Jared age 25, Jack age 20, John age 18, Elizabeth age 14, and Gertrude age 7 were listed at 533-506 and all were listed as being born in Prussia. Jacob Herkenrath was listed at 534-507 as age 40 and a blacksmith, Mary age 22, Henry age 3 and Joseph age 1 with Jacob and Mary born in Prussia and Henry and Joseph in MN. By the 1870 census, Jacob's first wife Maria Catarina Niebels Herkenrath had died and Jacob was already married to his 3rd wife Maria (Schonfer/Sconfer). Jacob is listed as aged 50, Maria as 29, Joseph as 12, Elizabeth as 9, William (from 2nd wife) age 4 and John (from 3rd wife) age 7 mo. We know that by the 1870 census both Maria Catarina Niebels Herkenrath and Handrag (Heinrich/Henry) had died, but what happened to little Catherine who would have been 8 and just a year younger than Elizabeth? In Jacob's 2nd family, we do find Maria Herkenrott with the Nicholas Doffing family in Hampton Township, Nicholas being her uncle. What happened to her mother? Did she die? Also, it is interesting to note that I found no record of Herkenratt/Herkenrath in the 1857 MN Territorial Census. Did they stop in Wisconsin with the Niebels family and arrive in MN by 7 Apr 1857 when Handrag was born? I found no Herkenratt/Herkenrath listed in the 1880 Census, so apparently the children were living with relatives by that time.

Jacob Herkenrath perished in the 6-7 Jan 1873 blizzard in Ottertail Co.. Some records show his death on Jan 6th, others as on 7th. His body was found 12 Jan 1873. It would appear that he had gone to join his brother-in-law Jacob and his family as Jacob Niebels had taken a 160.15 acre homestead near Fergus Falls in Ottertail Co. recorded in 1873 following his service in the Union Army which began in 1861.

Winifred Herkenratt Peter was told by her father, Joseph, that Jacob would allow only German to be spoken in the home and was a very strict and mean-spirited man. That and the fact that he was a blacksmith, married three times and had three families seems to be all the information available at this time.

Now for Jacob Herkenrath's first family with Maria Catarina Niebels, our line. The second generation, or the first born in the United States, included ancestor Joseph and his brother Handrag (Heinrich/Henry) and sisters Elizabeth and Catherine. Joseph and Handrag were born in rural Rice Co. and it is assumed that Elizabeth and Catherine were born in Owatonna, Steele Co.. We don't know anything about little Catherine except she was born 8 May 1861.

Joseph P. Herkenrath/Herkenratt and his sister Elizabeth (Mrs. Joseph Dawald) were raised as Catholics. Some of their siblings/half-siblings were raised as Protestants and the families lost touch as this was a period when Catholic and Protestant groups did not mingle. Their mother died during an epidemic and Joseph and Elizabeth were led to believe their father did also; however, this was not the case and Jacob remarried not only once but twice more.

Handrag (Heinrich/Henry) was born in rural Rice Co. on 7 Apr 1857 and died 7 Jul 1861. His mother Maria Niebels Herkenrath died 30 Jan 1863. Both are buried in Calvary Cemetery, Faribault, Rice Co., MN.

Joseph was born on May 1st, and records are not clear about the year as some say 1858, some 1859. After carefully evaluating the information, it would appear to be 1858 as his marriage certificate states that Joseph was aged 28 on 23 Nov 1886 and he was born on May 1st. The 1870 census agrees as it states Joseph is aged 12, but the 1860 census taken in Jul says he was age 1, giving a birth year of 1859. However, his obituary says he was born at Faribault in 1866, which is clearly wrong, and his tombstone gives a birth year of 1859. Only if we can find a birth certificate or a baptismal certificate can we accurately determine the year.

Joseph Herkenrath followed in his father's footsteps and became a blacksmith. Apparently he was apprenticed to William Lester Herreman who had come in 1854 from Ohio to Cannon City, Rice Co. and operated a forge on his farm before moving into town, opening up a blacksmith shop with William AnDyke in 1855. After AnDyke moved to a Forest Twp. farm in 1864 and Herreman moved to Osakis the same year, the blacksmith shop was sold to Ash VanSelus. Sometime after the census of 1870, we find Joseph living with the Herreman family while engaging in the blacksmithing trade. He worked with Herreman and then bought out Ash VanSelus. We find that Joseph moved to Dundas from Cannon City to join Frank M. AnDyke in his blacksmith shop, and when AnDyke sold out to Joseph Herkenratt, Joseph entered into a partnership with Allen J. Conrad establishing the blacksmith shop called Herkenratt and Conrad. There is a photo showing the two men standing in front of the shop which was only demolished in my lifetime.

Joseph was married to one of William Lester and Ann Elizabeth (Robinson) Herreman's daughters, Mabel, on 23 Nov 1886 in Faribault, Rice Co., MN. At that time, Joseph was 28 and Mabel was 19.

On 28 Aug. 1906 Joseph Herkenrath was appointed Postmaster at Dundas, MN. (It is interesting to note that his great-granddaughter, Arlene Boyum Williams, also held the post of Dundas Postmistress.) It was about this time that Joseph's name changed from Herkenrath to Herkenratt, possibly because the "th" appeared to be "tt" when the "h" looked as if it were a final "t".

Joseph also read law with Barrett & Barrett who had law offices in Northfield, and it was this contact with the Barretts that had Joseph becoming the manager of the R. D. Barrett Grain & Farm Empire in Western MN, 50,000 acres in Herman and Moose Lodge. Barrett's father was a general in the Civil War and was given the 50,000 acre land grant following the war.

Joseph, after an extended illness, died Oct 8, 1925 in Dundas and was buried in Groveland Cemetery on the 10th. All of his children were able to attend the funeral except Bernard, who was unable to be located out West.

Joseph and Mabel are buried in Groveland Cemetery, Dundas, Joseph in Sec. 15-2 and Mabel in Sec. 15-3. His birth year is listed on the stone as 1859 and hers is listed 1867. Their death years are listed as 1925 and 1952. These markers were placed later by family members who assumed that Joseph's year of birth was 1859 when the correct birth year is 1858. His death certificate states he was born 1 May 1858 and died 8 Oct 1925 at the age of 67 years 5 months and 7 days, and was a farm manager.

MABEL ADEL HERREMAN HERKENRATT'S ANCESTORS & SIBLINGS

Mabel Adel Herreman, Joseph's wife, was the youngest daughter of William Lester and Ann Elizabeth (Robinson) Herreman/Herriman. She was born Aug 4, 1867 in Cannon City, Rice Co., MN, where she lived until her marriage and for two years after when she and Joseph moved to Dundas. Here she spent the rest of her life. It is interesting to note that she was not baptized until Easter Even, 9 Apr 1898 by the Rev. Edward Moyses at the same time as her daughter Ruby and son Ivan. Confirmation records show Mabel was confirmed on Tuesday, 24 May 1898 by the Rt. Rev'd Bishop Whipple, D.D., L.L.D., Bishop of MN.

Mabel's parents were some of the earliest settlers of Rice Co.. Her father, William Lester Herreman, was born 22 Apr 1830 in Hampden, Ohio, to Moses L(ester) Herreman, who was from New York, and his wife, _____ Parsons, of Connecticut. William was the eldest of eleven siblings, although we know only of William,

his sister Alice who married a Fuller, and brothers Myron who married Polly _____, and Guy. William L. Herreman later moved from Ohio to Wisconsin, and then came to MN in the fall of 1854 where he settled in Section 36, Cannon City Twp.

Mabel's mother, Ann Elizabeth (Robinson) Herreman, was born 24 Dec 1839 in Holidaysburg, Blair Co., PA, the third child of Andrew Samuel Robinson (born 6 Nov 1814 also in Holidaysburg, who died 17 May 1843) and Mary Magdalena Waite (born 15 Oct 1811 in Huntingdon Co., PA, and who died 24 May 1878 in Winnebago City, Winnebago Twp., Faribault Co., MN). Little is known about Mary Waite's family other than her father George Waite was born about 1770 and she had three brothers: Isaac who was born in PA in 1798 and died 23 Dec 1888 at the age of 90 and is buried in Cannon City Cemetery, Cannon City, Rice Co.. George's wife, Margaret, died 11 Aug 1867 and is buried beside Isaac.; Benjamin born in New York 26 Jan 1809, and T. J. Waite.

A bit more is known about Ann Elizabeth (Robinson) Herreman's father Andrew Samuel Robinson. Andrew was born 6 Nov 1814 in Hollidaysburg, Blair Co., PA to Joseph Robinson (born 24 Mar 1771 in Cork, near Belfast, Ireland and died 30 Aug 1855 in Huntington, Blair Co., PA) and Margaret Carsen (born 3 Jun 1774 in Edinburgh, Scotland and died 29 Jan 1815 in Huntington, Blair Co., PA). Joseph and Margaret (Carsen) Robinson had eleven known children: James Samuel born 6 Feb 1801; twins William and Marget born 23 Jan 1803; Margaret born 12 Sep 1804; Thomas born 22 Oct 1806, died aged 76 on 9 Dec 1882 and buried in Cannon City Cemetery Section 236, Cannon City Twp.; Diana born 23 May 1808; Elspy born 7 May 1810 who married an Ottis; Joseph B. born 6 Apr 1812 in Huntingdon, Blair Co., PA and died 5 Aug 1864 in Winnebago, Faribault Co., MN; and Ann Elizabeth's father Andrew Samuel who died 23 Jun 1876 in Winnebago Twp., Faribault Co.. These records are taken from the Robinson family Bible.

Ann Elizabeth (Robinson) Herreman's siblings were 1) Mary Jane Robinson born 17 May 1836 Huntingdon Co., PA who married 25 Apr 1854 in Dixon, Lee Co., IL, William Edward AnDyke born 17 May 1829 in Huntingdon Co., PA. She died 12 Jul 1913 at Fox Lake, Rice Co., MN and is buried in Groveland Cemetery in Dundas. He died 1 Jul 1925 in Northfield, Rice Co., and is buried with Mary Jane. Their 8 children were: Francis Marion "Frank" AnDyke born 18 Apr 1855 Dixon, Lee Co., IL, died Northfield, MN 14 Oct 1941, who married Antoinette "Nettie" Marie Matson 15 Jul 1876; Andrew Jackson born 19 Nov 1856 in Cannon City, MN, died 8 May 1945 in New Orleans, LA, who married Clara I. Sargent 29 Aug 1876; Laura M. born 29 Jun 1860 Cannon City, died 22 Nov 1937 who married Sidney Almon Matson 3 Dec 1878; Edward Dunham born 13 Jan 1868 Fox Lake, Forest Twp., Rice Co. and died 12 Sep 1940, who married 27 Nov 1895 Margaret Reid McKinnon; Lewis R. born 27 Sep 1870 at Fox Lake who died in early childhood; Walter Henry born in Dundas 22 Jun 1872 and died 9 Sep 1872; and two stillborn children. 2) Samuel James Robinson born 17 Dec 1837 who married 4 Jul 1870 Margaret Kiefer. 3) George W. Robinson born 5 Feb 1842 in Holidaysburg, Huntingdon Co., PA who married 14 Dec 1867 in Nashville, Fraser Twp., Martin Co., MN Elnora Gertrude Fraser born 24 Feb 1846 Little Sandusky, Erie Co., OH. He died 29 Nov 1915 in Vernon Center, Blue Earth Co., MN and she died 7 Aug 1933 in Lime Twp., Fillmore Co., MN. They had 6 children: Orsen Marten, Elmer Francis, Mary E., Guy R. and Grace. 4) Margaret Amanda Robinson, known as Amanda, born 27 Apr 1843 and died 16 Dec 1844. 5) Sarah Matilda Robinson born 2 Feb 1845 and died 6 Apr 1867. 6) Joseph Henry Robinson born 27 Dec 1847 in Holidaysburg, Huntingdon Co., PA married 29 Dec 1867 Joanna Lucinda Reed born 1 Aug 1849 in Magnolia, Rock Co., WI. He died 11 Aug 1932 in Vernon Center, Blue Earth Co., MN and she died 31 Jan 1928 also in Vernon Center. 7) Andrew John Robinson "John" was born 26 Jun 1850 and died 16 Nov 1871 in Winnebago Twp., Faribault Co., MN.

Mabel Adel Herreman's known siblings were two sisters, Minnie born in 1857 and Ida Maria born 11 Jun 1861 in Rice Co. Minnie Herreman in 1875 married John M. Ranger who was born 28 Apr 1852 in Orleans Co., VT. Ida Marie Herreman married 23 Mar 1881 Moses L. "Mode" Dungay who was born 23 Oct 1858. They had one son, Dr. Neil Stanley Dungay born Sep 1883.

JOSEPH P. AND MABEL ADEL (HERREMAN) HERKENRATT'S CHILDREN

Joseph and Mabel Herkenratt had ten children: Vivian Lois, Ruby, Ivan Lester, Winifred, Milton Herreman (our line), Harold, Bernard, Freda Elizabeth, Joseph Lonce (known as Lonce), and Jane Iris (known as Iris).

1) Vivian Lois Herkenratt, the eldest child, was born 12 Aug 1887 at home in Cannon City, MN. Vivian was a school teacher at Dundas. On 30 Mar 1910 Vivian married Leslie Edward Thielbar, the son of Albert Joseph and Martha (DeMann) Thielbar, who was born 17 Apr 1890 in Rice Co. Les and Vivian had 13 children: Winifred Beth (Mrs. Oscar Boyum) born 18 Jul 1910; Ethel Arla (Mrs. Everett Nusbaum-Mrs. George Gotland-Mrs. Charles Jensen) born 3 Jan 1912; *Lloyd Ivan born 5 Nov 1913 who married Ruth May Quiggle; June Ida (Mrs. Donovan Daws) born 30 Jun 1915; Ronald Roy born 22 Oct 1917 who married Alma DeMars; Lloyd Milton born 7 Sep 1920; Albert Joseph born 8 Nov 1921 who married Dorothy Mae Gustafson; Carol Adelle (Mrs. Kenneth A. Witte) born 25 Dec 1923; Donald Wayne born 7 Aug 1925 who married Elaine Beckmann; Kenneth Neil born 1 Apr 1927 who married LaVerne Hanegraff; Eileen Vivian (Mrs. Loren Bernard Spitzack) born 19 Nov 1930; Lois Jean (Mrs. Ronald Hunt) born 15 Aug 1932; and one stillborn child.

2. Ruby Herkenratt was born 13 Jul 1889 at home in Dundas. Before her marriage, Ruby was a school teacher. Ruby was married 27 Jun 1911 in the Herkenratt home in Dundas to Franklin Aug DeMann who was born 6 May 1889 in Rice Co. to Charles "on the hill" and Marguerite H. (Meehl) DeMann. Frank died 2 Jul 1962 in Northfield and was buried in Oaklawn Cemetery. Ruby died 31 Mar 1971 and is buried beside Frank. Frank and Ruby had two daughters: Dorothy (Mrs. Russell Enfield) born on the farm near Circle Lake 11 Dec 1912 and Frances (Mrs. Theodore Wagner, then Mrs. Markham) born 22 Jul 1915 in Dundas.

3. Ivan Lester Herkenratt was born 14 Apr 1891 at home in Dundas, and in Sep 1912 at Faribault, Ivan married Mabel Clara Cowden who was born 5 Jun 1885 on the Cowden family farm south of Dundas in Bridgewater Twp. She was a school teacher and the daughter of John Cowden (born 24 Aug 1839 in Ireland, died 28 Jul 1918 in Dundas, MN) and his second wife Minnie Johnson (born 14 Aug 1865, died 29 Aug 1931). Mabel had a sister Lulu Ellen (Mrs. William Fitzpatrick) and a brother Samuel Clinton Cowden who died during the flu epidemic 2 Nov 1918, plus seven half-siblings, the children of John Cowden and Annie Mae Workman: James Alexander, Isabelle Jane (Mrs. Thomas Ingram), Allan John who married Minnie Belle Johnson, Sarah Elizabeth who died in infancy, Florence May (Mrs. John Milton Hoover), Alice Maude (Mrs. Isaac Elmer Tupper) and Olive Ella (Mrs. Guy Lemuel Babcock). Ivan Herkenratt died at his home in Dundas 26 Dec 1944 and was buried in Groveland Cemetery. Mabel died in Conaroe, TX on 26 Mar 1951 at the home of her son Lester and is buried next to Ivan in Groveland Cemetery. Ivan and Mabel had one son, William Lester "Les" Herkenratt who was born 23 Aug 1916 at home on the farm in Bridgewater Twp. and married 19 Oct 1940, at her parents home, Irene Viola Bestul born 6 Jun 1914. Les died at his home in Tyler, TX, Apr 28, 1991 and was buried in Memorial Park Cemetery in Tyler. Irene died 17 Jan 2005 in Tyler and is buried with Les.

4. Winifred Herkenratt was born at home in Dundas 1 Aug 1893. On 15 Aug 1917 at the Herkenratt home in Dundas, Winifred married Edward Lawrence Carl Peter, a farmer, who was born 25 Feb 1891 at home in Weimer Twp., Jackson Co., MN to William Peter and Kate Dobreiner. Ed died 4 Feb 1973 and was buried in Lakeside Cemetery in Heron Lake. Winifred died in Heron Lake 24 Mar 1991 at the age of 97 and is buried beside Ed. Ed and Winifred Peter had four children, twins Merton Edward and Marilyn Winifred born at home 19 May 1920 in Weimer Twp. by Heron Lake, Jackson Co., MN. On 27 Jun 1947 Merton married Joyce LaVon Gates, born 21 Apr 1928, the daughter of Carl E. and Kathryn (Van Norman) Gates. On 18 May 1939 Marilyn Winifred Peter married John "Jim" Diemer born 26 Jul 1913, the son of George and Rose Diemer. Ed and Winifred's third child was Curtis Ellsworth Peter who was born 28 Jan 1922 in Weimer Twp. On 31 Mar 1945 Curtis married Alethe Bickner, born 15 Sep 1926, the daughter of Leonard and Irene (Liepold) Bickner. Winifred and Ed Peter's youngest child was Bernard Joseph who was born 18 Apr 1931, also in Weimer Twp. On 21 Oct 1957 in Memphis, TN, Bernard married Helen Porter who was born 18 Nov 1930 in Lambert, MS.

5. Milton H (for Herreman) Herkenratt is the father of Richard Milton Herkenratt and is the direct ancestor for our family. Milton was not given a middle name at his christening, so when a middle name or an initial was required when he entered the Army during WW I, he chose "H" without a period to stand for Herreman to honor his mother and her family. Milton was born 10 Feb 1896 at home in Dundas, Rice Co.

Milton and his first wife, Ila Margaret Drake, were married 22 Dec 1920 at the Drake home in Bridgewater Twp. Ila was killed in an auto accident by Osceola, IA 5 Jan 1952 and is buried in the Drake plot in the Northfield Cemetery. Milton married on 6 Oct 1952, a long-time family friend, widow Laura May (Babcock) Conrad. Milton died at Faribault on 19 Jul 1953. He was buried beside his first wife, Ila Drake Herkenratt. Lora May died 23 Nov 1993 at Northfield and was buried in Groveland Cemetery in Dundas.

Milton's first wife, Ila Margaret Drake, was born at the Drake farm home in Bridgewater Twp. 5 Sep 1896, the only child of Sumner Ernest Drake (born 18 Dec 1867 in Bridgewater Twp. to Edwin Sumner and Martha (Clark) Drake; died 27 Jul 1925 in Northfield) and Florence Maud Taylor (born 1 Feb 1872 in Forest Twp., Rice Co.; died 27 Jun 1951 Northfield). While family records show Ila was born in the red brick house situated in Bridgewater Twp. just across from the Northfield Twp. section of the farm, her birth is recorded in Northfield Twp. records. Apparently the Northfield Town Hall was closer to the Drake farmhouse than the Bridgewater Town Hall in Dundas and her father had the birth recorded in Northfield Twp. Ila and Milton had four children all born in Chetek, WI: 1) Harry Sumner born 23 Sep 1921 who married first on 23 Nov 1942 in Miami, FL, Helen Ann McCloskey born 21 Sep 1921 in Philadelphia and second on 6 Feb 1959 in St. Paul widow Geraldine DaMay (Baddgor) Kendrick who was born 13 Aug 1922. 2) Margaret Jean born 4 Oct 1922 who married 11 Jun 1949 in Mill Valley, CA, Edward Carlyle Wood who was born 26 Feb 1922 in Houston, TX to Charles Reed and Addie Mae (Siegert) Wood. 3) Richard Milton born 17 Nov 1925 who married 17 Jun 1951 Dorothy Ann Chester who was born in Northfield, MN 10 Oct 1925 to Edward Ogden and Ethel (Orr) Chester. 4) Robert Joseph born 18 Jul 1927 who married 2 Aug 1952 in Wangen Prairie, MN, Carol Jean Beckman born in Cannon Falls 17 Apr 1931 to John Nifton Rutherford and Amanda Marie (Knutson) Beckman.

6. Harold Herkenratt was born in Dundas 6 Nov 1899. He married a Dundas teacher, Mabel Nelson, and they had one daughter, Lois J. who married Robert Zuehlke.

7. Bernard Herkenratt was born in Dundas 23 Nov 1901. He disappeared from a train while traveling to his assignment at Ft. Lewis, WA during WW I. He was presumed dead as his body was never found.

8. Freda Elizabeth Herkenratt was born in Dundas 3 Aug. 1904 and married James Hankes who was born 11 Apr. 1904 in Hastings. They had a dozen children, all born in Hastings MN: 1) Carla born 6 Jul 1928 who married Dr. Aaron Reichenberg; 2) Keith born 15 Dec 1929 who married Barbara ____; 3) Marlene born 17 Sep 1931 who married Vernon Olesen; 4) Janice born 29 Jul 1933 who married Gregory Langenfeld; 5) Dale Ivan born 9 Jan 1935; 6) Patricia born 2 May 1936 who married first ____ Kimmes and second ____ Bauer; 7) Joanne born 10 Nov 1938 who married Robert Kerstetter; 8) Lois born 2 Apr 1941 married 21 Sep 1963 Thomas Soleim; 9) Elizabeth born 12 Nov 1942 10) James Justin "Justin" born 9 May 1944 married Virginia Ruedy; 11) Michael born 12 Apr 1946; and 12) Linda born 24 Feb 1948 who married William Hamman.

9. Joseph Lonce "Lonce" Herkenratt was born 13 Jul 1907 in Dundas, MN and married Catherine Helen "Katie" Majeski who was born 24 Apr 1910 in Hastings to John P. and Josaphine (Biscoup) Majeski. Lonce and Katie had four children, the first two born in Hastings and the last two in Red Wing: 1) Joan born 5 May 1939 who married first on 13 Nov 1957 in Clear Lake, IA, Edward R. Holmgren born 13 Dec 1936 in St. Paul, and second on 18 Aug 1967 in SD Kenneth A. Jacobson born 26 Oct 1941 in Minneapolis; 2) James Joseph born 23 Nov 1940 who married 23 Jun 1973 in Watertown, SD, Sandra Lee Stedman born 14 Sep 1946 in Port Orchard, WA; 3) Jean Carol born 10 Jun 1950 who married 22 Dec 1973 in Duluth, MN, Zachary Clyde Taran born 15 Oct 1948 in Duluth, MN; and 4) Kevin Paul born 9 Oct 1952 who married 19 Apr 1980 in Fridley, MN, Beverly Sue Jacobson born 6 Jun 1954 in Minneapolis.

10. Jane Iris "Iris" Herkenratt was born 6 Nov 1909 in Dundas, MN and married on 22 May 1937 in Northfield, MN, Frederick Willard Matteson born 13 Jan 1909 in Hastings, MN. Their daughter and only child was Charlene Gladys born 16 Oct 1939 in Hastings, MN, Jack Loris Milani, Jr. who was born 8 Sep 1936 in Knoxville, TN.

NOTE: I have purposely not included dates and places of deaths in the fourth generations nor included names for those in the fifth generation to protect privacy. The siblings and half-siblings of Joseph Peter Herkenrath/ Herkenratt need to be treated another time.

SOURCES: church records; family archives; court birth, marriage and death records; census records; family Bibles; correspondence and interviews.

HELP WANTED

All members are encouraged to place queries with the RCGS. There is no charge and no limit to the numbers of queries per year. They will be printed as space permits and as soon as possible after they are received. Please type, print or write clearly. Words should be written in full to minimize errors. We may at our discretion use some abbreviations. Non-members will be charged a fee of \$5 per entry. In addition, we will print group sheets, ancestor charts, pedigree or Ahnentafel (European) charts, and descendant charts for people with Rice County connections - free for members, \$2 per sheet for non-members or we will print one free in connection with a non-member query submission. Again, they will be printed as space permits and as soon as possible after they are received.

#1 - 2011 Dorothy Chester Herkenratt, 2405 NW 2nd Ave., Faribault, MN 55021

Looking for copy of The Drake Family History researched by Lelia J. Drake Clarke of Chicago, her brother Linn P. Drake of PA, and their father Dr. Charles Drake, younger brother of Joseph Drake who died in 28 Apr. 1857 in Rice Co. Joseph's grandson, Arthur I. Drake of Northfield, verified some of the facts known to him for the PA Drakes. The book also included records gathered by the Drake Relations Association of New Castle, PA. as well as many family stories which had been written and passed down to various family members. The book was published by Lelia J. Drake Clark who came to Minneapolis from Chicago to work as a Linotype operator with the Minneapolis Journal.

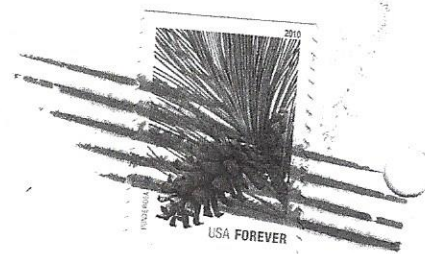
NOTICE: When members have a news item, query, list of lines being searched, or any other notice of interest to the general membership, please give or send the item to Dorothy Chester Herkenratt, 2405 NW 2nd Ave., Faribault 55021 so that it can be included in the Newsletter.

BRIDGEWATER TWP. MINUTE BOOKS PROJECT

We are pleased to report that the Rice County Genealogical Society's project of transcribing the minute books going back into the mid- to late-1800s held by Bridgewater Twp. is progressing well. Members working on the project are Cheri Albers, Harriet Berg, Audrey DeMann, Norma Gilbertson, Randine Meehl, Darlene Pfahning, and Ed and Arlene Williams. Bill Becker, Linda Stadler and Doris Welke, who are non-members, have also volunteered their services. Harriet Berg, with a bit of tweaking by members, established the format in which materials transcribed would be typed, and the format decided upon was having a copy of the original page to the left with the transcription opposite on the right. So all materials would be compiled in the same manner, the typeset and format information was given to the typists who are Harriet, Norma, Ed and Arlene, Bill, Linda and Doris. All are working under the oversight of Janalee Cooper, the Bridgewater Town clerk, and meetings of the group are held supplemented by internet conferences. Copies of the books were made at St. Olaf College and portions of the records given to each of the transcriptionists who, in turn, either type up the materials or give them to a typist. Next will be the project of indexing all of the transcribed material when a format for this is decided upon. Because this project is coming along so well, even though the old-fashioned script is often hard to decipher, Janalee has now broached the idea that the group should undertake another project: how the names of the roads in Bridgewater Twp. have changed over the years, i.e., from the name of a prominent farmer living along the road to the numerical system to the new alphabetical grids, etc. She would also like to have the approximate date of the name change(s) ascertained so a complete history will be available for the township as well as the county.

The minute book project was undertaken at the behest of Cheri Albers whose mother, Geraldine Reuvers, the long-time clerk for Bridgewater Twp., had several years ago begun the project of transcribing the materials by hand as she had found some of the books had begun to deteriorate to the point some of the writing had faded to being nearly invisible. Cheri brought her idea to the RCGS meeting in April of 2010 for our consideration and discussed the possibility of the project with Janalee Cooper who was very enthusiastic about having this very necessary work undertaken by volunteers rather than using funds needed in so many other places.

Rice County Genealogical Society
408 Division Street
Northfield, MN 55057



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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FOR 2012

(Please print)

Name

Address

Phone ()

Type of Membership: ☐ Individual \$10 per calendar year
 ☐ Family \$12 per calendar year

☐ I would like to make an additional donation of \$_____ to help the Society meet its goals.

Please make check payable to and send with this application to:
Rice County Genealogical Society
Dorothy Herkenratt, Sec.-Treas.
2405 NW 2nd Avenue
Faribault, MN 55021

Form 10/15/11